

# Re - DISCOVER

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

## I. First Record of Tithing

Genesis 14:18-20 -- Abram gives Melchizedek a tenth of all the spoils.  
Genesis 28:22 -- Jacob vows to give God a tenth of all that God gives him.

## II. The Giving of the Tithe Came Before the Law

Exodus 2:10 -- Beginning of Moses  
Exodus 20:1-17 -- God gives Moses the Ten Commandments

## III. Tithing Continues Through the Law

Deuteronomy 14:22; 2 Chronicles 31:5, 12; Nehemiah 12:44

## IV. Tithing Continues Today

Hebrews 7:1-8 1. Today pastors receive the tithe on behalf of the Body  
Proverbs 3:9, 10 -- Should we tithe off the gross or the net of our income?  
Malachi 3:10 -- Blessings that come from the tithe

## V. The Attitude of Giving an Offering

Exodus 25:2; Exodus 35:5; 1 Chronicles 29:9 -- God wants us to give willingly.  
Deuteronomy 16:17; Ezra 2:69; Acts 11:29; 2 Corinthians 8:12 -- God wants us to give according to our ability.  
Matthew 6:1-4 -- Give without showing off or becoming prideful  
2 Cor. 9:6-11; Galatians 6:7-10 -- Giving is a sowing and reaping principle.

## VI. Our Offerings Are Our Seeds for Sowing and Reaping

2 Corinthians 9:6; Luke 6:38 -- The amount that we sow will determine the amount we will receive.  
Psalm 35:27 -- God takes pleasure in the prosperity of His people.  
Deuteronomy 8:18 -- God gives us power to get wealth.

Ephesians 4:28; Genesis 12:1, 2

**God blesses us so that we can help others. God does not care how much we have, as long as what we have does not have us, and if God asks us to give it away to someone.**



# The Realism of Generosity

*“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.” 2 Cor. 8:9*

**Re·al·ist** \ree-uh-list\  
a person who tends to view or represent things as they really are

➤ **Monopoly-reality creates an ego-centric world**

**Jesus did not criticize the man’s wealth, but his arrogance**

Count the number of references to “I” and “my” in vv 17-19

➤ **Generosity is the \_\_\_\_\_ of your spiritual life**

**Fever** – a hectic life driven by competition and growing debt, burnout

**Hypothermia** – unmoved by the cries and needs of others, miser

**Normal** – a balanced life of gratitude, grace, and generosity

➤ **True Reality consists in sharing what you cannot keep.**

*Our giving reflects the Spirit of Christ in us.*

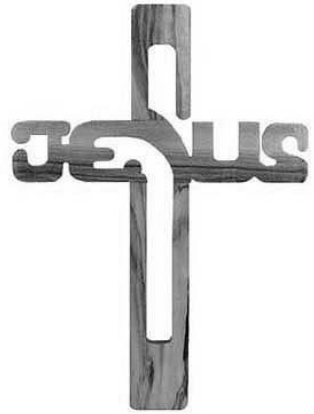
*Our generosity reflects our world view.*

**Are you a Barn Stuffer or a Life-Giver?**

This is God's Word for my life in this place and at this time. Today, I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own, and I believe He has a purpose for my life.

## ***Luke 12:13-21(NIV)***

### *The Parable of the Rich Fool*



Someone in the crowd said to him, "*Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.*"

<sup>14</sup>Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" <sup>15</sup>Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

<sup>16</sup>And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. <sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

<sup>18</sup>"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." '

<sup>20</sup>"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

<sup>21</sup>"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."